

## **Historic, Archive Document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



261

1927

# The Pomeroy English Walnut



*Design by Raphael Beck*

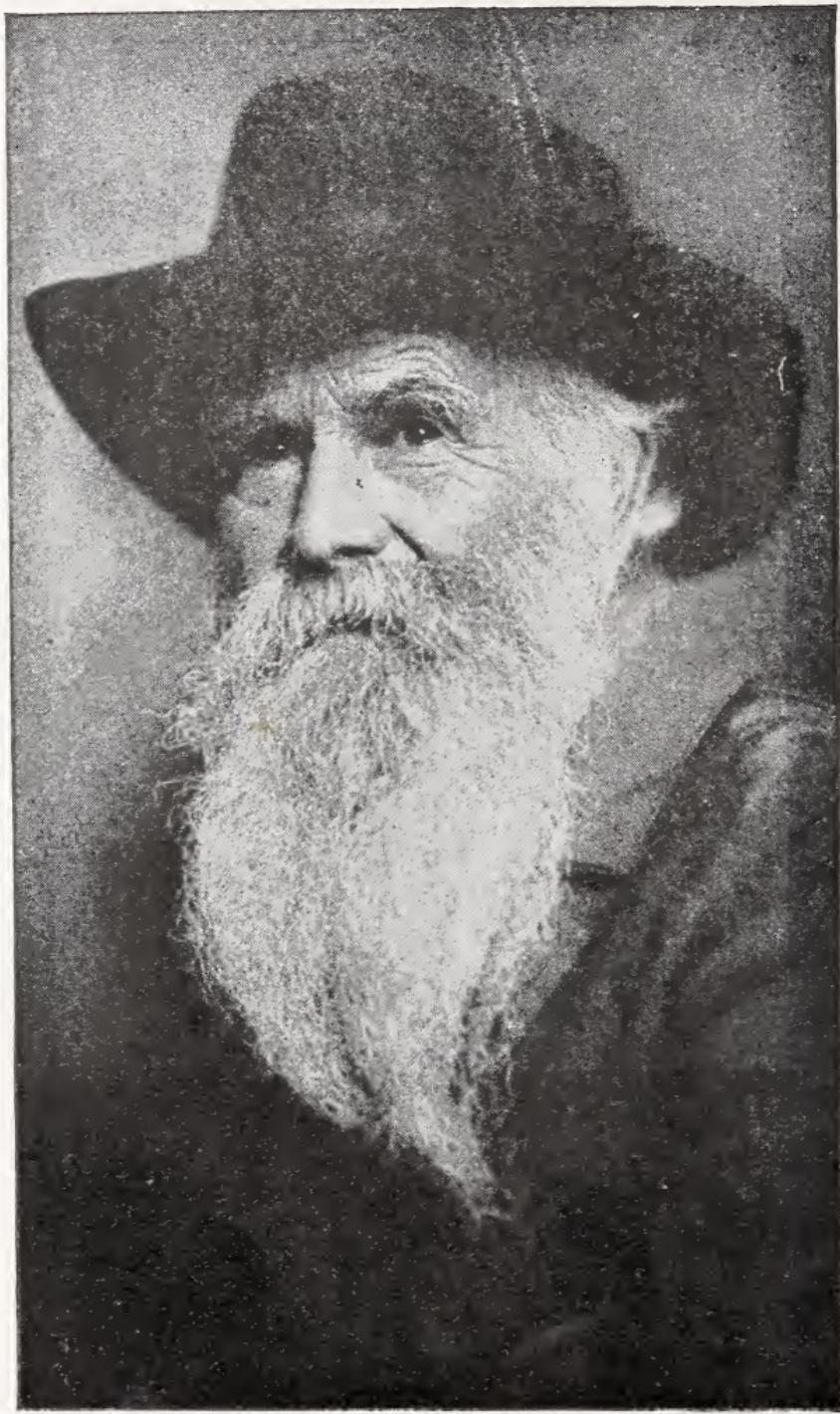
Daniel N. Pomeroy & Son

English Walnut Orchards

Lockport, New York

# Enriching the Horticultural World by Millions of Dollars

A Real Country Gentleman



THE LATE NORMAN POMEROY

Born 1829—Died 1902

*The man who discovered the Hardy "Pomeroy" and successfully grew English Walnuts in a climate far below zero.*

# The English Walnut

*"Grow mor English walnut trees and be wealthier;  
Eat more nuts and be healthier."*

ENGLISH walnut growing for the East, New England States and Canada is such an established fact that the purpose of this little brochure is not to now retell of their hardiness and thrifty success so much as to give an instructive explanation of the best methods and cultural directions. The magazines have devoted much space of late, giving the successful experiences of different growers with the Hardy Pomeroy English walnut trees and the various authorities are so unanimous in declaring them the "one best bet" for large returns from small or sizable orchards that the subject can not fail to be of interest to those desirous of obtaining the most and safest returns from their land, whether "the home acre", or those acres where you have been wondering what would best pay there.

## Early History of English Walnuts

The English walnut (*Juglans Regia*) was introduced into Greece from Persia and Asia Minor at an early date and was there known as the "Persian or Royal Nut" on account of being introduced by Greek monarchs, or sent to them by Persian kings. It is stated on good authority that King Solomon set some of these trees in his garden, which but furnishes additional proof of the wisdom of this sage monarch. Next appearing in Rome—it is called the "Nut of the Gods." From there it was generally distributed throughout Europe, not only in Southern but in Northern parts as well.

Some of these first trees are still alive and bearing large valuable crops of nuts in Germany, Switzerland and other countries. It is known to have reached England about 1562 and was called The Walnut.

## Introduced Into America

The English walnut was probably first known in Eastern America about 1713 when a nursery garden was started near New York and a few of these trees were grown. Trees were set near New York and Philadelphia and, being from acclimated Northern European stock, did well. One of these trees had the honor of shading and beautifying the mansion where General Washington made headquarters at Washington Heights. In 1810 (also the year when the grandfather of the writer hereof established what has since become world famous as The English Walnut Orchards) the estate at Washington Heights was sold. The new owner being one of the grande dames of society, the old tree

Young Hardy Pomeroy English Walnut Tree



BEAUTIFUL LAWN SHADE TREE

---

A Western New York doctor has a 60-acre English Walnut orchard in California. On a visit to Pomeroy English Walnut Farms he said, "I sold my 1911 crop for \$10,000 (at lower price per pound than Pomeroy variety commands), but no Western trees compare with the Pomeroy trees in appearance, average yield or annual growth. The flavor of the Pomeroy English Walnuts surpass anything I ever tasted."

was admired by notable and royal personages. According to records at the time of the Civil War this tree was then producing an annual crop of a couple of cart-loads of nuts. Unfortunately, it has been destroyed within the past few years.



HARVESTING THE NUTS IS A PLEASURE

## **Oirgin of a New and Hardy Variety**

To the late Norman Pomeroy belongs, and is given, the credit for starting English walnut growing on any scale in the colder parts of the United States. Attending the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia in 1876 he discovered one of these venerable English walnut trees in the dooryard of the home where he was staying. The unusual beauty of the tree first attracted his attention and interest. As it was Fall the ground was covered with nuts, more delicious than any nuts he had ever tasted. Obtaining permission, he gathered some and sent a grip home by a neighbor. Great was his disappointment upon returning to find that the children had apparently eaten them all; a closer examination, however, disclosed seven in the torn lining of the grip. As Mr. Pomeroy was skilled in arboriculture he propagated young trees and in the Spring of 1877 set out seven about the historical home-  
stead and they all thrived and soon commenced bearing and are annually bearing large increasing crops of delicious nuts.

## **Extreme Tests and Proof of Hardiness**

He knew from the very first that these trees would be extremely hardy, able to withstand the vigors of almost any climate, and, that he was right in this belief is now well known in thousands of localities by actual tests with the trees; experimental stations, nut culturists of international prominence, progressive farmers and property owners with all the wide range of climates and soils this country and Canada possess have proven conclusively that the Hardy Pomeroy English walnut trees (so named by government experts sent to investigate the new variety) are an unqualified success, able to withstand winters, unprotected, ranging far below zero. One Pennsylvania man after testing a few trees; personally visiting the Pomeroy English Orchards and inspecting orchards and nurseries; bought and set out 400 trees on about 15 acres. He is but one

of many who have set out good orchards of these wonderful trees.

### English Walnut at Its Best

A smooth, soft shelled nut, meat full, with sweet hickory-nut flavor. Nuts fall clean and free from outside shuck when the frost harvests the nuts in October. They are self-pruning and trees require no care after



THESE TREES ARE HEAVY BEARERS

arrival at bearing age, up to then about the same care as fruit trees and are very responsive to cultivation. An alkali sap keeps scales and pests from the trees. The blossoms are immune from late frosts, as they start late with pistillate and staminate blossoms maturing at the same time, thus insuring perfect fertilization and productivity. They bear more regularly than other nut trees with heavier crops the older they become, unlike other fruit trees the size and quality of whose fruit degenerate with age.

## For Real Enjoyment

By H. W. Collingwood

I have been playing squirrel today—much to the chattering and scolding objections of several four-footed nut-crackers. Our people are all fond of nuts—no country fireplace is at its best without a good supply of hickories and walnuts. You cannot get the real zest of a cold and stormy night in winter, unless you can sit with a basket of nuts and a good-sized plate of apples. You smash a walnut or a butternut, nibble the meat and throw the shell into the fire—where it blazes up for a moment in full glory. Now and then you feel that this steady diet of nuts gives you too much protein—you need to balance the ration—so you bite into a red-cheeked apple. This is an ideal performance for a winter evening in the country. You can buy nuts, they may come all the way from Maine to Florida, but they do not give you the real life. Think of trying to substitute a banana or a Mexican peach for a Baldwin apple as a lunch before an open fire. For real enjoyment you must hunt the nuts yourself, dry them in the attic, protect them from rats, squirrels and other vermin (including the children) and bring them out of their hiding place at the proper time—before the fire. Modern society has nothing to equal the

satisfaction you get from such a lunch. Such nuts bring back the sharp frost in the air, the hum of the wind through the trees, the blue, white-flecked glory of the sky, the sun on the hills, the changing colors on the trees and the joy of an autumn day. It is not the melancholy drab of late November, but the bright Indian Summer—which seems so much like the happy, kindly ending of a well-spent life.

## Praise for Pomeroy English Walnut

In a recent issue of the *Rural New Yorker*, Mr. Collingwood, the editor, has an article on "The Raising of English Walnuts." Among other things, he writes: "Our Star Performer this year is a Pomeroy English Walnut." . . . "If a farmer had several acres of these trees such as mine, he would enjoy an income greater than he could hope to get from an apple orchard this year."

## What is a Nut Tree Worth?

In a nut orchard the past summer a broken down walnut tree, split to the ground through a bad crotch, looked like the result of a California earthquake or a Florida breeze, so evident was the damage.

"There is a two hundred dollar loss," I remarked.

"No," said the farmer in charge, "the owner values these trees at \$500 a tree."

During the harvest this year I had a chance to check some trees. Some gave four or five sacks of nuts though I presume the average for the orchard was about two sacks to the tree. These sacks averaged fifty-five pounds to the sack and the nuts were sold at twenty-four and a half cents, orchard run.

These trees are well spaced and well cared for. In four or five years they can be expected to double their yield.

The mere mention of \$500 per tree brings a smile at first thought but when the owner is really gathering more than twenty-five dollars per tree from his orchard with the expectation of doubling this yield within a few years, it is not so ridiculous after all.

## Orchards Give Large Returns

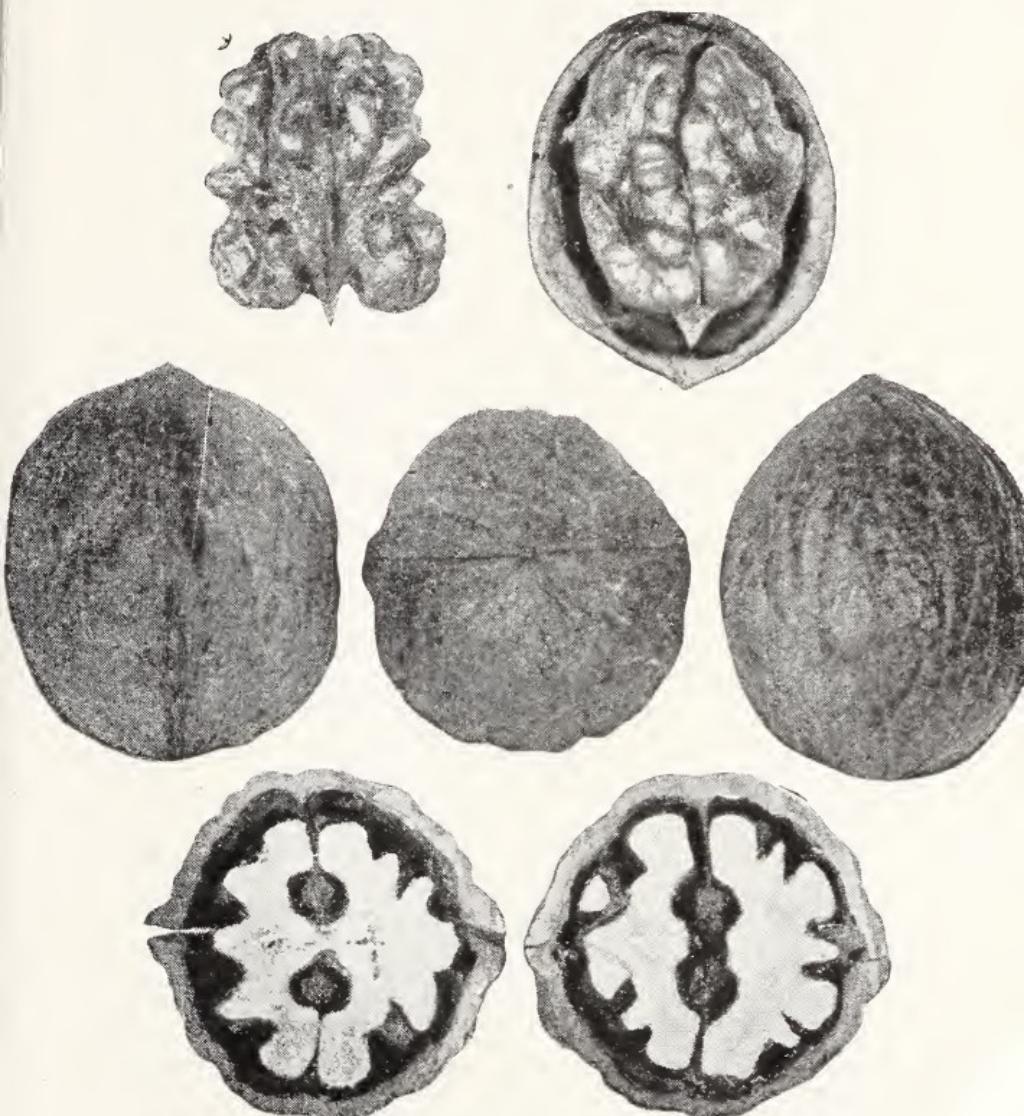
Orchards seven and eight years old bring all the way from \$100 to \$200 per acre and are a fine investment, yielding from 15 to 125 per cent., according to age. A prominent authority says, "There are few acres of tillable land in the United States that will not yield \$100 worth of nuts to the acre per year with less care than would be required for almost any other crop. Special acres under special cultivation are at present yielding in the neighborhood of \$1,000 profit per year. The demand is far in advance of the supply and it will be a great many years before over-production will interfere with profits. Almost anyone can have an income of a few thousand dollars a year from nut orchards if he really cares to bring his initiative to bear on the subject." The total cost of producing and harvesting an English walnut crop is about three cents a pound.

## Soils, Planting, Trimming and Care

Any well drained soil which would grow fruit trees; land where black walnuts, chestnuts, butternuts or other tap-root trees grow, or have grown, is very suitable. Along driveways, roadsides, line fences and orchard planting, set forty feet apart, or further, if preferred, but never closer as these trees grow to large size and although their branches might interlace without harm, it is better to give them enough room for the many, many years they will increase and spread in beautiful grandeur.

## **Beautiful Lawn Shade Trees**

Although the United States consumes 50,000,000 pounds or more of English walnuts annually, over half of which have to be imported; the price with the demand is increasing, the best California budded nuts sell at 35c to 40c per pound, about \$12.00 per bushel. The Pomeroy's 50c to 60c or \$15.00 to \$18.00 per bushel. The United States imports annually more English Wal-



One pound of English Walnut meat equals eight pounds of beef steak in nutrient and a more healthful food

nuts that both Canada and the United States combined export, in value of apples. These trees are of vital importance not only from a profitable or economic standpoint, but their artistic beauty can not but be a compelling reason for having some; at least, by those to whom magnificent symmetrical and picturesque trees are worth while. Their large, dark, wavy green leaves contrasting with the almost white trunk and branches, loaded with nuts, makes a sight which once seen is never forgotten. Order some now and send them to the folks on the Old Homestead. They may be planted in the Spring or Fall.

A man at North East, Pennsylvania, from a young bearing orchard of Pomeroy Trees, sold, in competition with the best California budded nuts in Buffalo, N. Y., in November, 1919, one ton of nuts at a price of ten cents per pound more than the highest competitor. This is only one of many instances where the demand for Pomeroy English Walnuts exists.

### Forrest Crissey's Jolt

"Your young orchard of Hardy Pomeroy English walnut trees gave me one of the biggest horticultural jolts I have ever received. In years of investigation of fruit growing and farming, the visit to your English walnut orchards, stands out as a distinct and unique experience.

"Why? Before starting for California I received a box of nuts from your trees. Their flavor caught me at the start. It was as delicate, as fine as it was distinct—clearly superior to the flavor of the English walnuts of commerce. Then, too, I was surprised at the thinness of the shells. Somehow I had the notion that an English walnut grown in the North must have a hard shell. But I found I could easily crack these nuts by taking two of them in my hand and squeezing them together.

"Then I went to California. There I visited the great English walnut orchards and

ware houses of the Golden State. I found the nuts there good—excellent, for that matter—but not up to the fine flavor of the Hardy Pomeroy English walnut. They fell a long ways short, in fact.

"But still I clung to the notion that English walnut trees could not be hardy in the North—that a real severe winter would put them out of business.

"Last fall on my way to New York, I decided to stop off at Lockport, visit the Hardy Pomeroy English walnut in its native lair and see for myself whether it was really hardy. Of course, I knew that if the trees had survived the previous winter—a record-breaker for the kind of weather that kills trees—there could be no doubt about their hardiness.

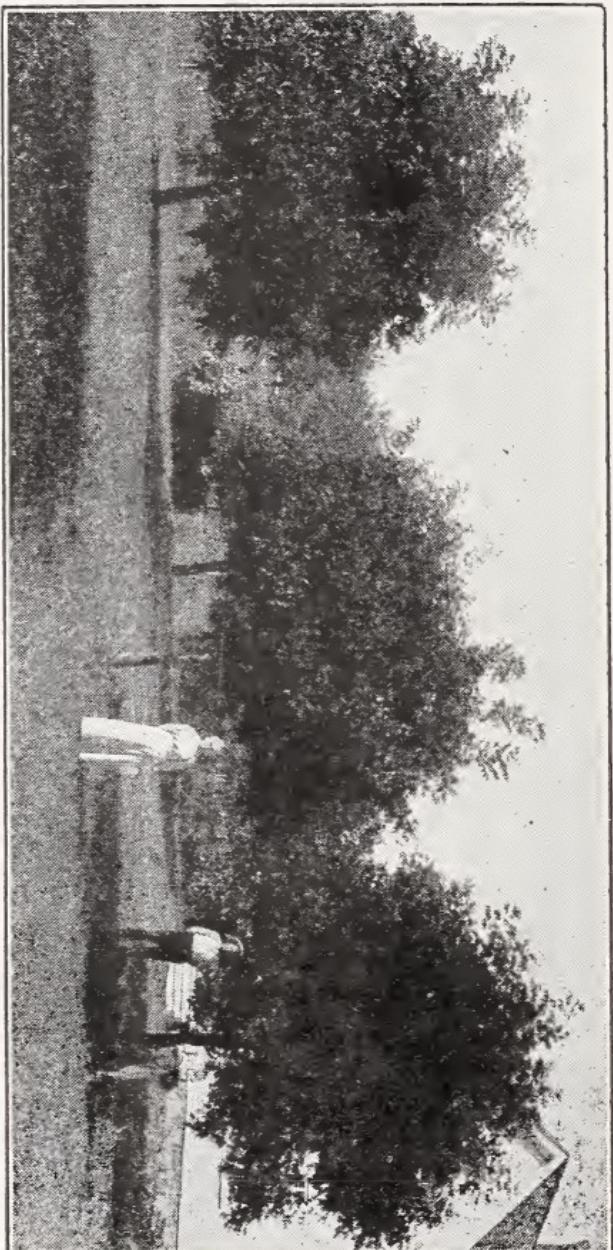
"When you took me down into the young orchard below the vineyard, I got my jolt. There I found alternating rows of Hardy Pomeroy English walnut trees and peach trees. On every hand were peach trees killed out, root and branch, by the severe winter. There was not a Hardy Pomeroy English walnut tree in the whole orchard that showed the slightest injury from frost or from anything else. They were as bright as new dollars and as thrifty as any trees I ever saw.

"Then I saw the older trees with their loads of nuts on them. There was no question about the performance of those trees.

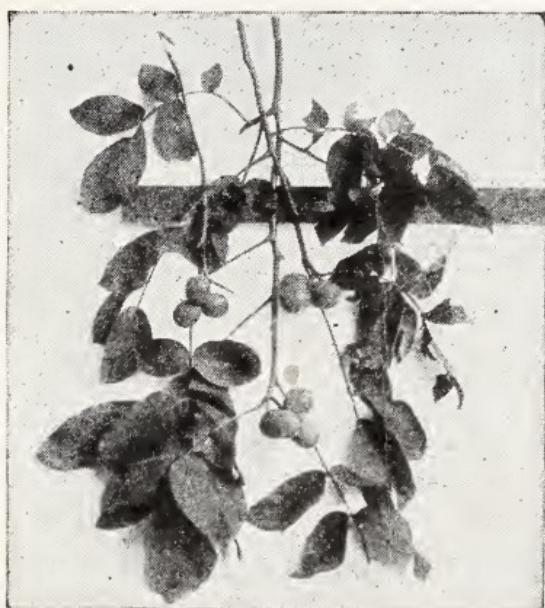
"Mr. Phin M. Miller, of Buffalo, was with me. After we had left your place he remarked to me: 'Well, Mr. Pomeroy certainly has the goods to show to back all his claims —there's no getting around that! A tree that survived last winter will stand almost any test. It's certainly entitled to be called hardy. Then the burden of nuts on those bearing trees shows what they'll do in the way of fruiting. And no man can eat those nuts without admitting their superior flavor.'"

—*Forrest Crissey.*

A Michigan school boy bought four Hardy Pomeroy English walnut trees, and planted them in the lawn up among the pines along Lake Huron where the winters are so severe they cannot grow peaches! This photograph shows the large, heavily bearing, beautiful trees that resulted.



*This subject interests you and would some  
of your friends. Send their addresses  
and this little book will be sent them.*



BRANCHES SHOWING CLUSTERS OF NUTS

*The slip enclosed presents a real opportunity. Enclose it in the envelope and mail it before you forget.*

---

*We wish to invite you and all of your friends to visit The Pomeroy English Walnut Orchards the next time you are in this part of the country.*

*All roads centre to these Orchards as same were established in 1810.*

*Almost any one can direct you from Lockport to the English Walnut Farm, situated three miles N. W. of Lockport, N. Y.*

*Daniel N. Pomeroy      Howard D. Pomeroy*

